Region 10, Georgia 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee

Wray Hall, Chairperson

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Filed Electronically

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Ref: PS Docket 06-229 & WT Docket 96-86 Comments in Regards to the 9th NPRM

As chairperson of Region 10 – Georgia, I previously endorsed the filing made by Region 24 – Missouri, 700 MHz Regional Planning Committee, dated January 24,2007.

Region 10 – Georgia, agrees with those public safety entities who have expressed the desire to maintain the opportunity and capability of designing, licensing and implementing a local high speed data network where the control, coverage and capacity is determined by the entities themselves. It would not be beneficial to be forced to rely on a nationwide system with little or no input into the design and unique requirements by geographical areas.

It would seem desirable to eventually have access to a nationwide network that would provide connectivity to local high-speed data and thus create true interoperability. It is still apparent however, that there is the inherent need for local and/or regional systems in addition to nationwide.

Region 10 – Georgia, wishes to reserve the right to maintain and control a certain amount of the data spectrum and the diversity to implement wideband or broadband as the individual needs of local public safety entities.

The State of Georgia comprises more than a few large metropolitan areas, however, a large portion of the state boundaries and landmass is considered rural with agricultural and forestry coverage areas. The concern in our state is for these areas, where vendors do not have the customer base to justify the expense of investing in the rural areas. This has borne true with the commercial cell service providers over the recent past. Without local or regional decision making, there will probably never be a complete nationwide network of any kind, wideband, broadband or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

Wray Hall, Chairperson

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